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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~SECURITY INFORMATION
REPORTCOUNTRY East GermanyTOPIC Military Information from Wittenberg

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

29 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. Prior to 7 October 1953, the Tauentzien Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by about 550 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. In the morning of 2 October, 30 soldiers were engaged in athletics and 60 soldiers left the installation while others were engaged in maintenance work in the garages. On 3 October, 18 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying field telephones and telephone poles left the installation. On 5 October, 1 armored personnel carrier and 1 armored scout car left the installation and patrolled the town. At 9:30 a.m. on 7 October, 2 sidecar motorcycles, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 armored scout car and 1 truck occupied by about 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation toward Berliner Strasse. Armored scout cars and armored personnel carriers

2. Prior to 7 October, the Beseler Kaserne was occupied by about 1,100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 3 October, about 400 soldiers in groups of 80 soldiers each were lined up in the barracks yard. Maintenance work was done on two T-34/85 tanks. On 7 October, about 130 soldiers were engaged in athletics. At 2:30 p.m., two groups each of 150 soldiers marched to the two kitchens from the barracks building in the rear section of the installation. The barracks buildings were brightly lit at dusk. Motor vehicles seen at the installation

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3. At 4:15 p.m. on 30 September, 1 T-34 and 2 T-34/85 tanks with 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets moved from the Arado installation to the railroad station to be loaded toward Jueterbog.

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4. From 1 to 5 October, the Beseler Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by an estimated 600 to 650 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The barracks buildings were brightly lighted at dusk. At 10 a.m. on 1 October, several soldiers were seen interchanging the tracks of three T-34/85 tanks. Motor vehicles

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_____ were seen at the installation.

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_____ Comment. The report fails to indicate whether in early October, all elements of the division had already returned to the barracks installations, especially the Beseler Kaserne which is permanently occupied by three regiments. It is believed that large elements of the division still are in the Jueterbog area, since an exercise of these units was held there from 21 to 23 September and no returning shipments have yet been observed. _____ In connection with a previous report, the headquarters, the 3d Gds Mtrcl Bn and the 1st (2) Gds Sig Bn are believed to be stationed in the Tauntzien Kaserne. _____

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